

## ABSTRACT

An information recording medium (100) is provided with: a user data area (108) for recording therein record data; a plurality of temporary defect management areas (104, 105) for temporarily recording therein defect management information (120) which is a basis of defect management for a defect in the data area; and a flag area (111) for recording therein distinction information for distinguishing a temporary defect management area in which the defect management information that is effective is recorded, from the plurality of temporary defect management areas, the distinction information being recorded as a type of a combination pattern of an area set to be in a recorded condition and an area left to be in an unrecorded condition according to a predetermined rule, in the flag area.